



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of Specialized Instruction

# Independent Living Skills Overview

Presented by:

Dr. Pamela R. Downing-Hosten

Ms. Sharon Bean

Ms. Rickita Perry

Ms. Janice Stark

Ms. Laura Patton



# Introduction

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**Purpose** – The purpose of this presentation is to provide Professional Development (PD) on the Independent Living Skills Course

**Process** – The PD will be conducted through this presentation, discussion on topics reviewed, and a panel.

**Payoff** – At the conclusion of this PD participants will be able to discuss the three pillars of the Independent Living Skills Course, the outside resources associated with the course, and the intended outcomes of the course.

## Norms

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- **Be prepared**
- **Utilize informed questioning**
- **Look for opportunities to offer collaboration and support**
- **Provide constructive, solution-based feedback**
- **Practice self-regulation**

## Purpose of the Course

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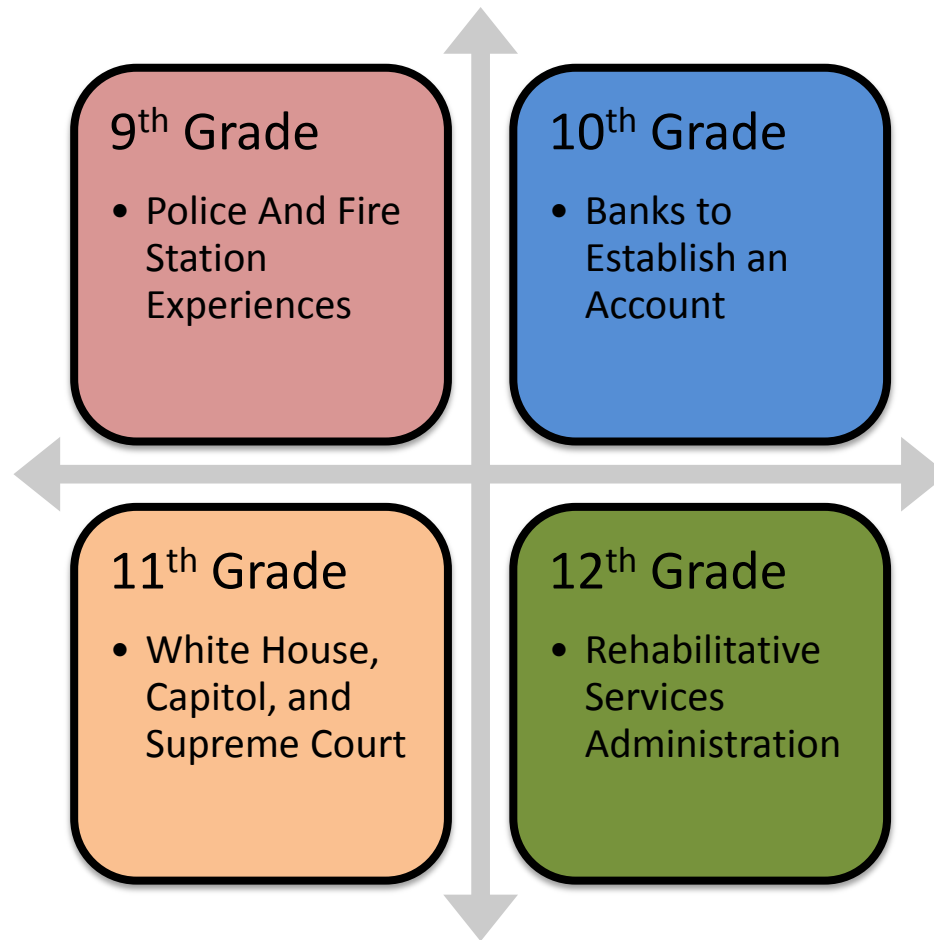
- The purpose of this course is to give students exposure to community-based experiences to supplement instruction about daily life activities. Students should be able to recognize different opportunities in their community and understand how to utilize resources.
- Students in this course have the opportunity to apply self-advocacy and self-determination skills in their community while also gathering information about resources available to them outside of the classroom.
- Students have explored varying concepts aligned to the common core that prepares them for their experience in the community. Students are then able to reflect on experiences following the close of an experience.

## Course Themes

- The course is taught across four different grade levels, from 9<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Each course has a different theme that student's focus on and experiences are connected to as part of the curriculum.
- The grade level themes teach students about various types of resources that are available to them and how they can interact with those resources. The themes are as follows:
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Basic Community Resources
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Daily Living Resources
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Government Resources
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Vocational Resources



## Sample Community-Based Experiences



## Transition Planning

- As a component of their course, all students will be required to complete a final project associated with their activities within the course. Students will be able to present their projects in their annual IEP meeting, using the following continuum for interaction:



## Panel Members

We are so pleased to have had a successful first year, which can be attributed to the dedication of our teachers and the strong partnership with the Arc of DC. Here to discuss the reflections of the first year are the following panelists:

- Mary Lou Macriello, Executive Director of the Arc of DC
- Laura Patton, Consultant, The Arc of DC
- Sharon Bean, Special Education Teacher at Ballou SHS
- Rickita Perry, Special Education Teacher at Eastern SHS
- Janice Stark, Special Education Teacher at Cardozo EC





# Web Resources

DCPS.DC.GOV

DCPSCEO.COM

DCPSTRANSITION.COM



# Transition Team Contact

TEL.(202) 442-4800 EMAIL: OSE.TRANSITION@DC.GOV